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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8619
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE
RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE
RUCNCAN/ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0228
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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CANADA WILL CONTRIBUTE \$35 MILLION TO SUPPORT
AFGHAN ELECTIONS

REF: A. OTTAWA 1331

[1](#)B. STATE 108855

[1](#)1. (SBU) Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Afghanistan Task Force Policy Advisor Jennifer Kleniewski told pol/miloff on October 20 that Canada has budgeted \$35 million to support the 2009 and 2010 elections in Afghanistan. In her follow-up to ref a, she also specified that \$25 million will go to the UNDP Basket Fund, and \$10 million to elections support specifically in Kandahar.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Kleniewski added that Canada will consider other election-related funding options if Kandahar-based projects are unable to absorb that entire \$10 million. She noted that Canada will not make the figure public until after Prime Minister Stephen Harper selects a new Minister for International Cooperation following the Conservative victory in the October 14 federal election.

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